

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 - 10. (cancelled).

11. (currently amended) A ten-amino acid peptide, which is obtained by substituting one or more amino acids in position No. 5- No. 8 in the amino acid sequence[[s]] FKGEQGPKGE (SEQ ID NO:8) with alanine and/or glycine.

12. (previously presented) The peptide according to Claim 11, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is selected from the group consisting of the following sequences: SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:7.

13. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
(a) the peptide according to Claim 11; and
(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant and/or excipient.

14. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 13, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is selected from the group consisting of the following sequences: SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:7.

15. (previously presented) A method for treating rheumatoid arthritis in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of the peptide according to Claim 11.

16. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 15, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide is selected from the group consisting of the following sequences: SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NO:7.